

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02  
SS-15 ICA-20 IO-14 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /105 W  
-----103073 141444Z /41

R 121445Z SEP 78  
FM AMCONGEN NAPLES IT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6265  
INFO RUFHOM /AMCONGEN FLORENCE IT//115  
RUFHOM /AMCONGEN GENOA IT//132  
RUFHOM /AMCONGEN PALERMO IT//163  
RUFHOM /AMEMB ROME IT//2618  
RUFHOM /AMCONSUL TRIESTE IT//59  
RUFHOM /AMCONSUL TURIN IT//58  
USDOCOSOUTH FOR INTAF

UNCLAS NAPLES 1799  
USDOCOSOUTH  
E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, IT, ECON  
SUBJECT: ANDREOTTI AT BARI FAIR - CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM  
1. ON SEPTEMBER 8 AND FOR THE THIRD CONSECUTIVE YEAR PRIME MINISTER  
ANDREOTTI OPENED THE LEVANT FAIR AT BARI WITH AN ADDRESS SETTING THE  
TONE FOR AUTUMN 1978 POLITICAL/ECONOMIC SEASON. THE TONE WAS CAU-  
TIOUS OPTIMISM (ANDREOTTI HIMSELF APPEARED RELAXED AND CONFIDENT) AS

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THE PRIME MINISTER POINTED OUT THAT THE MONETARY CRISIS IS PAST AND  
BALANCE OF PAYMENTS EQUILIBRIUM RESTORED. THE PRIME MINISTER BOASTED,  
BUT PRUDENTLY, OF THE 3,400 BILLION LIRE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS SURPLUS  
IN JULY 1978 COMPARED TO THE DEFICIT OF 750 BILLION LIRE FOR THE SAME  
SEVEN MONTHS OF 1977. HE ALSO NOTED THE DECLINE IN INFLATION RATE  
AND INCREASE IN SMALL (POSTAL) SAVINGS. ANDREOTTI EMPHASIZED THAT  
THE GOAL FOR ITALY NOW MUST BE INCREASED PRODUCTION AND RECOVERY,  
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PRIMARILY IN THE SOUTH WITHIN A FRAMEWORK OF REDUCED INFLATION AND  
MONETARY STABILITY.  
2. THIS GOAL CAN BE ACHIEVED, AFFIRMED ANDREOTTI, IF THERE IS THE  
WIDEST POSSIBLE COOPERATION AMONG SOCIAL GROUPS AND POLITICAL FORCES.  
THIS DOES NOT MEAN A "CONFUSION OF ROLES" BUT DEMANDS A COMMON COM-  
MITMENT TO "PRECISE OBJECTIVES". ALDO MORO WAS DEDICATED TO THIS  
COOPERATIVE SPIRIT, EULOGISED ANDREOTTI IN BARI, MORO'S POLITICAL

HOME, AND HIS ASSASSI COULD OT SEND IT TO THE GRAVE.

3. REFERRING TO ITALY'S SOUTH, THE PRIME MINISTER ACKNOWLEDGED THE NEED FOR INDUSTRIALIZATION BEYOND RECOVERY BUT STRESSED THE EQUAL NEED TO DEVELOP AGRICULTURE (NEW INFRASTRUCTURE, COMMERCIALIZATION, ETC) AND TOURISM. HE PRAISED THE NEW AND ALLEGEDLY ADMINISTRATIVELY SIMPLIFIED CASSA PER IL MEZZOGIORNO WITH ITS PRESIDENT

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GAETANO CORTESI (RECENTLY OF ALFA ROMEO) AND ANTICIPATED A RAPID IMPLEMENTATION OF GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS ESPECIALLY IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR.

4. ANDREOTTI CALLED FOR THE PRACTICE AS WELL AS SPIRIT OF SACRIFICE AND A KIND OF MYSTICAL BELIEF IN ITALY'S FUTURE. IT IS ITALY AT THE CROSS ROADS. THE ITALIANS THEMSELVES WILL SELECT EITHER ECONOMIC GROWTH AND RETENTION OF THEIR EUROPEAN IDENTITY OR WILL "TURN BACK TOWARD UNDERDEVELOPMENT".

COMMENT: ALTHOUGH SHORT ON SPECIFICS THE ANDREOTTI SPEECH WAS WELL RECEIVED BY WELL-DISPOSED GOVERNMENT, BUSINESS AND INTERNATIONAL GUESTS. HIS TONE AND SPIRIT OF SACRIFICE STRUCK A HARMONIOUS CHORD, ONE PERHAPS LACKING IN OTHER INSTRUMENTS MAKING UP THE ITALIAN ORCHESTRA. MANY OF THOSE PRESENT WOULD HAVE PREFERRED MORE ELABORATION ON THE THREE YEAR PLAN, BUT THE SPEECH SUFFICED AND IN THE WORDS OF ONE FINE LADY TO CONOFF "ANDREOTTI IS HANDSOME ENOUGH". WHETHER HIS CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM AND THE GOI ECOOMIC PROGRAMIS HANDSOME UNCLASSIFIED

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ENOUGH BEYOND SEPTEMBER IK BARI IS STILL TOBE DETERMINED. COLANTONIO.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, PRIME MINISTER, SPEECHES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 sep 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Subject:** ANDREOTTI AT BARI FAIR - CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM  
**TAGS:** PINT, ECON, IT, (ANDREOTTI, GIULIO)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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